This is an official
MS Health Alert Network (HAN) Advisory

MESSAGE ID:	**MSHAN-20190730-001418-**ADV (Health Advisory)
RECIPIENTS:	**All Physicians, Hospitals, ERs, ICPs, NPs, and Healthcare Providers - Statewide**
DATE:	**Tuesday, July 30, 2019**
SUBJECT:	**Ebola Update, July 2019 – Identify, Isolate, and Call**

Key Points
- On July 17, 2019, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the ongoing Ebola virus disease outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) a Public Health Emergency of International Concern.
- The risk of global transmission of Ebola related to this outbreak remains low despite recent geographic expansion.
- Mississippi providers and health care facilities should **identify** patients with a travel history to the DRC in the prior 21 days.
- Symptomatic patients with a travel history to DRC should be **isolated** immediately.
- **Call** the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) immediately at 601-576-7725 (601-576-7400 after hours) with any suspected cases of Ebola among symptomatic patients with recent travel to DRC.

Since August 1, 2018, there has been an ongoing outbreak of Ebola in the Democratic Republic of Congo; now the second largest Ebola outbreak in history. As of July 28, 2019, the WHO is reporting 2,671 cases related to this outbreak, including 1,790 deaths (see the WHO Ebola Situation Report at https://www.who.int/ebola/situation-reports/drc-2018/en/). WHO and CDC have been involved with local and regional government and healthcare to assist with and provide technical guidance related to surveillance, laboratory testing, contact tracing, infection control, border health screening, data management, risk communication, education, and vaccination.

On July 17, 2019, WHO declared the Ebola outbreak in DRC a Public Health Emergency of International Concern. This declaration is due in part to the length of time the outbreak has been ongoing, in addition to local regional spread of Ebola and the need for an internationally coordinated response.

Currently, the risk of global transmission from the DRC outbreak remains minimal. Providers and health care facilities in Mississippi should continue best practices of taking a travel history on ill patients and utilizing personal protective equipment (PPE) in all appropriate settings.

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601-576-8090 ● 1-866-HLTHY4U ● www.HealthyMS.com

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While the risk of individuals with travel associated Ebola presenting to a Mississippi facility is very low, MSDH is asking providers and health care facilities to:

- **Identify** patients with recent travel to the DRC (within 21 days).
- Immediately **isolate** symptomatic patients with recent travel to DRC. Symptoms include fever, diarrhea, vomiting, and unexplained bleeding that may appear 2-21 days after exposure (see CDC for guidance on PPE when managing Ebola suspects https://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/healthcare-us/ppe/guidance-clinically-stable-puis.html)
- **Call** MSDH immediately with any suspected cases of Ebola in travelers to DRC.

The MSDH Office of Epidemiology is available for reporting and questions at 601-576-7725 (601-576-7400 after hours).

Regards,

Kathryn Taylor, MD
Deputy State Epidemiologist

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Alerting Message Specification Settings

Originating Agency:	Mississippi State Department of Health
Alerting Program:	MS Health Alert Network (MS HAN)
Message Identifier:	MSHAN-20190730-00148-ADV
Program (HAN) Type:	Health Advisory
Status (Type):	Actual ()
Message Type:	Alert
Reference:	MSHAN-00148
Severity:	Unknown
Acknowledgement:	No
Sensitive:	Not Sensitive
Message Expiration:	Undetermined
Urgency:	Undetermined
Delivery Time:	600 minutes

Definition of Alerting Vocabulary and Message Specification Settings

Originating Agency: A unique identifier for the agency originating the alert.

Alerting Program: The program sending the alert or engaging in alerts and communications using PHIN Communication and Alerting (PCA) as a vehicle for their delivery.

Message Identifier: A unique alert identifier that is generated upon alert activation (MSHAN-yyymmdd-hhmm-TTT (**ALT=Health Alert, ADV=Health Advisory, UPD=Health Update, MSG/INFO=Message/Info Service**).

Program (HAN) Type: Categories of Health Alert Messages.

Health Alert: Conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

Health Advisory: Provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

Health Update: Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.

Health Info Service: Provides Message / Notification of general public health information; unlikely to require immediate action.

Status (Type):

Actual:	Communication or alert refers to a live event
Exercise:	Designated recipients must respond to the communication or alert
Test:	Communication or alert is related to a technical, system test and should be disregarded

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Message Type:

Alert:	Indicates an original Alert
Update:	Indicates prior alert has been Updated and/or superseded
Cancel:	Indicates prior alert has been cancelled
Error:	Indicates prior alert has been retracted

Reference: For a communication or alert with a Message Type of "Update" or "Cancel", this attribute contains the unique Message Identifier of the original communication or alert being updated or cancelled. "n/a" = Not Applicable.

Severity:

Extreme:	Extraordinary threat to life or property
Severe:	Significant threat to life or property
Moderate:	Possible threat to life or property
Minor:	Minimal threat to life or property
Unknown:	Unknown threat to life or property

Acknowledgement: Indicates whether an acknowledgement on the part of the recipient is required to confirm that the alert was received, and the timeframe in which a response is required (Yes or No).

Sensitive:

Sensitive:	Indicates the alert contains sensitive content
Not Sensitive:	Indicates non-sensitive content

Message Expiration: Undetermined.

Urgency: Undetermined. Responsive action should be taken immediately.

Delivery Time: Indicates the timeframe for delivery of the alert (15, 60, 1440, 4320 minutes (.25, 1, 24, 72 hours)).

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